

REMARKS

Claim 41 had previously been rejected as anticipated by Komarek et al. and Tambussi, and further as obvious in view of Komarek et al. and Tambussi. Claim 28 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 41. Claims 40 and 41 have been cancelled without waiver or prejudice.

Claim 28 (Currently amended) recites “the skin and honeycomb lining are formed integrally with each other.” Komarek et al. merely teaches side sheets and a honeycomb attached thereto. In Tambussi, the honeycomb pattern is sandwiched between stabilizing surface elements. Claim 28 (Currently amended) further recites that “the body armour is contoured into a cup-shape with the lining on the concave face of the skin.” Komarek et al. merely teaches a box shape and all sides are planar. In Tambussi, the sides are folded to form a casket in substantially rectangular form. Claim 28 (Currently amended) further recites that “the cell walls extend from the skin in a common direction parallel with the central wall that is perpendicular to the skin.” Komarek et al. merely teaches that the cell walls on the top and bottom sides are perpendicular to those on the middle wall, rather than parallel thereto. In Tambussi, the honeycomb walls in the sides of the casket are perpendicular to the honeycomb walls in the bottom of the casket. Claim 28 (Currently amended) recites that “the thickness of the skin is non-uniform over the surface of the protective body to form at least one fold line free from the walls of the honeycomb lining and relatively thinner to enable the protective body armour to conform to the contour of a person’s body.” Komarek et al. merely teaches that the skin thickness is constant. In Tambussi, the stabilizing surface elements are “scored” to make fold lines.

Both Komarek et al. and Tambussi fail to teach or suggest these limitations. For the reasons noted above, it is believed that claims 28-39 and 42-47 are allowable.

Association of Customer Number and Change of Correspondence Address

Applicant respectfully requests that all papers pertaining to the above-captioned patent application be associated with Customer No. **31625**, and direct all correspondence pertaining to this patent application to practitioners at Customer Number **31625**. All telephone calls should be directed to William Beard at 512.322.2690.

CONCLUSION

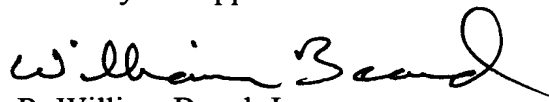
The application as defined in the pending claims is patentable in view of the cited prior art. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned agent for Applicant stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicant encloses a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), and a check in the amount of \$395.00 for the RCE fee. Applicant believes there are no additional fees due at this time, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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